

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DACCA 03397 310338Z

12

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 AGR-20 IGA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13

RSR-01 /216 W

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P 310044Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0484

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, BG

SUBJECT: PL 480 TITLE I NEGOTIATIONS

PASS AGRICULTURE

1. NEGOTIATIONS BEGAN JULY 25 AND HAVE CONTINUED DAILY WITH SESSIONS REQUIRING LINE BY LINE READING AND EXPLANATION TOTAL AGREEMENT. ALL ISSUES BELIEVED CLARIFIED NOW AND WE READY SIGN SUBJECT TO (A) WASHINGTON APPROVAL PROPOSED MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING RE PUBLICITY AND PROPOSED PRESS RELEASE, AS FOLLOWS; AND (B) OUR PROVIDING WASHINGTON 36 HOURS ADVANCE NOTICE.

2. PROPOSED MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING RE PUBLICITY: QUOTE THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FULLY EXPLAINED THE INTENT OF SECTION 103 (1) OF PL 480. THE REPRESENTATIVES OF BANGLADESH GOVERNMENT AGREED TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THAT SECTION OF THE ACT REGARDING PUBLICITY, INsofar AS PRACTICABLE, KEEPING IN VIEW THE GESTURE OF GOODWILL OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TOWARD THE PEOPLE OF BANGLADESH. UNQUOTE.

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PAGE 02 DACCA 03397 310338Z

3. PROPOSED PRESS RELEASE BY US EMBASSY: QUOTE THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TODAY SIGNED THEIR FIRST AGREEMENT UNDER THE PL-480 TITLE I FOOD FOR PEACE ACT, AS AMENDED. THE AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR THE SALE OF 80,000 TONS OF US WHEAT, VALUED AT APPROXIMATELY 8.3 MILLION DOLLARS (TAKA 11.6 CRORE EQUIVALENT). THE SALE, PAYABLE IN DOLLARS, INCLUDES THE MOST CONCESSIONAL TERMS AVAILABLE UNDER THE FOOD FOR PEACE ACT; THAT IS, THERE IS NO ADVANCE PAYMENT REQUIRED, AND THE BANGLADESH GOVERNMENT HAS 40 YEARS TO REPAY, INCLUDING A 10 YEAR GRACE PERIOD. THE AMERICAN EFFORT TO ASSIST BANGLADESH WITH ITS CURRENT FOODGRAIN NEEDS REFLECTS THE HIGH DEGREE OF U.S. CONCERN FOR THE BENGALI PEOPLE AT A TIME WHEN AMERICAN FOODGRAIN STOCKS HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY DRAWN DOWN BY STRONG WORLDWIDE DEMAND. THIS SALE OF 80,000 TONS OF WHEAT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH RECENT USAID GRANTS OF 200,000 TONS OF WHEAT UNDER THE BILATERAL GRANT FOR RELIEF AND REHABILITATION, BRINGS THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF AMERICAN WHEAT PLANNED FOR DELIVERY TO BANGLADESH DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF FY 1974 TO 280,000 TONS AND THE TOTAL OF FOODGRAINS PROVIDED BY THE USG TO BANGLADESH SINCE LIBERATION TO 1.28 MILLION TONS (12.8 LAKHS). END QUOTE.

4. EVERY EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO IMPRESS UPON BDG OFFICIALS URGENCY TO SIGN AGREEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. NEGOTIATING MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CHAIRED BY SECRETARY PLANNING COMMISSION MR. M. SYEDUZZAMAN, AND ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTRIES. HOWEVER, FINAL INTERNAL BDG CLEARANCE REMAINS TO BE OBTAINED.

5. JENNETTE, NORTON EXPECT ARRIVE WASHINGTON THURSDAY. PLEASE INFORM WIVES.

6. REQUEST PRIORITY REPLY.

DECONTROL ON SIGNING AGREEMENT
FULLER

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